

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5455

As of January 26, 1999

Title: An act relating to anadromous salmonid fishing.

Brief Description: Creating a program that allows fishers to identify and protect anadromous salmon.

Sponsors: Senators Fraser, Swecker, Prentice, Costa, Fairley, Jacobsen and Eide.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation: 2/3/99.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, PARKS & RECREATION

Staff: David Johnson (786-7754)

Background: Although regulation books are provided free of charge, there is no requirement of formal training before a fishing license is issued. It is believed that education about species identification, low impact fishing methods, habitat requirements, and fishing laws will help to preserve the salmon and certain trout.

Summary of Bill: The Department of Fish and Wildlife is directed to establish a class and test for each fishing license applicant under age 18. The proof of successful completion of the exam must be carried with the fisher while fishing. A fee for the class may be charged.

The exam may be taken by nonresidents without taking the class. Certificates from other states with similar programs are acceptable. Charter boats must have an instructor on board.

Appropriation: Unspecified.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 22, 1999.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.